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South Hampton
for the
year ending
March 13, 1860

NEW HAMPSHIRE
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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

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OF THE

MAY 23 1896

No.

TOWN OF SOUTH HAMPTON,

From March 11, 1859 to March 13, 1860.

RECEIPTS.

Cash in the hands of Treasurer, March 11, 1859,	\$ 5 94
Received of the Collector of 1859,	1,309 60
“ County, for support of John Armstrong,	187 85
Literary Fund,	33 60
Received State Railroad Tax for 1858,	5 58
“ “ “ 1859,	8 38
“ for the use of the Town House,	4 00
“ for grass on Burying-ground,	2 25
“ of the Collector for 1858,	64 44
“ for old bridge stuff,	45
	<u>\$1,622 09</u>

EXPENDITURES.

Paid School District No. 1,	205 20
“ “ 2,	130 94
“ “ 3,	75 33
“ “ 4,	47 45
State tax,	151 90
County tax,	380 24
for the support of John Armstrong at Asylum,	114 84

Paid Non-resident Highway Orders for 1859,	15 99
for Town Reports for 1858,	12 00
for printing tax bills and blank books,	4 83
School Commissioner for 1859,	8 68
Moses Eaton Jr. for repairing town bridge, as per bill,	87 89
Thomas J. Goodwin, for building wall on highway,	25 00
Expense of getting money from the County, in case of John Armstrong,	5 00
Expresses, for carrying money,	2 00
for supporting watering trough,	3 00
Charles Fuller, services as Collector, 1859,	20 76
“ “ “ Super. School Committee,	15 00
Abatement of taxes, 1858,	3 14
R. & A. Sawyer, for land for highway,	5 00
David Kimball, for repairing bridges, &c.	10 00
B. B. Brown, “ “	1 00
F. B. Brown, “ “	1 34
J. T. Currier, “ “	1 50
Charles Fuller, for nails,	36
John C. Keniston, for repairing town pick,	25
Moses Eaton Jr. services as Selectman and Treasurer,	14 00
“ “ house-room and stationery,	12 00
“ “ extra appointments and appraisal, and calling extra town-meeting,	10 00
B. B. Brown, services as Selectman,	12 00
“ “ extra appointments and appraisal, and calling extra town meeting,	10 00
Israel Woodman, for labor on old Burying Ground,	2 00
Thomas J. Goodwin, for interest on note,	12 00
Town Clerk, services,	15 00
Town Sexton, services,	15 50
R. F. Dow, for services as Selectman,	12 00
“ “ extra appointments and appraisal, and calling extra town-meeting,	10 00
for enrolling the soldiers and returning the same,	4 00
Anson Gile, labor on highway,	2 47
R. F. Dow, “ “	5 92
Thomas J. Goodwin, on note,	150 00
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	\$1,615 53

STATEMENT OF THE FINANCES OF THE TOWN.

Whole amount of Receipts,	1,622 09	
“ “ Expenditures,	1,615 53	
Balance of cash on hand,	————	6 56
Whole amount committed to Collector, 1859,	1,384 84	
Of which he has paid the Treasurer,	1,309 60	
Due from Collector for 1859,	————	75 24
“ “ 1858,		28 21
“ “ 1857,		2 61
“ State, as Railroad Tax,		12 00
“ George W. Goodwin, for grass at the Pool,		2 00
“ Nathaniel Smith, for old bridge timber,		1 25
		<u>\$127 87</u>
The town owes to Thomas J. Goodwin		50 00
it being the whole indebtedness of the town.		————
Balance in favor of the town,		<u>\$77 87</u>

MOSES EATON, JR.,	} Selectmen of Southampton.
RUFUS F. DOW,	
BENJ. B. BROWN,	

The undersigned have examined the foregoing account and find it correctly cast and properly vouched.

RICHARD WHITE,	} Auditors.
THOS. G. GOODWIN,	
BENJ. SAWYER,	
DAVID KIMBALL,	

REPORT OF OVERSEER OF THE POOR.

The undersigned having been appointed Overseer of the Poor for the year 1859, has the pleasure of saying that no money has been paid for the support of the Poor during the year, and that he has had no application coming within the scope of his official duty ; and that he makes no charge for the performance of his official service in looking after those who he thought might need aid during the winter.

MOSES EATON, JR.

The Town will owe on the 30th day of April next to the New Hampshire Asylum for the support of John Armstrong six months, and the County of Rockingham will owe to the town of South Hampton the same amount, and not knowing the amount I have not reckoned the same among the assets or liabilities of the Town.

MOSES EATON, JR., Town Treasurer.

The twelve dollars reported in this Report due from the State Treasurer as Railroad Tax has been drawn from the State by the Selectmen of the Town of Newton, and they refuse to pay the same to the Town of South Hampton ; I therefore report the same for the information of the Town.

MOSES EATON, JR., Town Treasurer.

REPORT

OF THE

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE,

From March 1st, 1859 to March 1st, 1860.

At the close of another polical year, in accordance with the laws of New Hampshire, your Committee would submit the following report to the town :—

DISTRICT No. 1.

Phillips White, Prudential Committee. School money for the District, \$265 20. Teacher, both Summer and Winter terms, Miss Hannah White, a resident of the district. Summer term, 25 weeks, with a vacation of 5 weeks. Winter term, 10½ weeks. Wages of Teacher per month, including board, \$22 00. Scholars 4 years of age and upwards, attending not less than two weeks, Summer term 59; average attendance, 42; Winter term, number attending not less than two weeks, 41; average attendance, 31. The studies pursued by the pupils were Reading, Spelling, Penmanship, Arithmetic, English Grammar, Geography, Physiology.—The school is well furnished with Text-books, Out-line Maps, Black-boards, and a globe. Eighty visits by parents and citizens are reported. The teacher was assiduous in her endeavors to benefit those entrusted to her care. The scholars manifested a desire to conform to the regulations of the school, and treated their teacher with much respect.

The teacher, in her remarks says :—"The attendance has been very good, and but few instances of tardiness; six have been late, and three of the six lived nearly a mile from the school-room. Sixty-three different scholars have attended school during the past term,—but four of them were under 4 years of age and were not registered. The improvement has been good; with but few execeptions the scholars have been studious and obedient. The school-room is much too small for the number of scholars, some seats having four occupants, when they were designed for two; this makes it quite difficult to keep so large a school in order; but with care and patience it has been very good. It is a great encouragement to both teacher and pupil to have the parents visit the school often; then they can see and judge for themselves if their children are making the improvement they desire.—The parents have given me their support in promoting order and improvement in the school, for which I would tender them my hearty thanks."

DISTRICT No. 2.

S. M. Prescott, Prudential Committee. School money, \$130 94. Teacher for Summer and Winter terms, Miss Eliza D. Fremont, of Amesbury, Mass. Summer term, 15 weeks; Winter term, 13 weeks; wages of Teacher, per month, including board, \$16.00; scholars 4 years of age upwards, attending not less than 2 weeks, Summer term 23, Winter term 25; average attendance, Summer term, 25; Winter term, 18. Two scholars were not absent one half day. Studies: Reading, Penmanship, Spelling, English Grammar, Composition, Geography, Arithmetic, Algebra, Physiology. Thirty visits are reported by parents and citizens. The Prudential Committee visited this school both terms. The teacher, in her remarks says:—"In commencing this school I was happily disappointed to find no such bad scholars as I had expected; though it required constant effort for the first few weeks to maintain good order; many of the scholars possessing a habit of playfulness rather than stubbornness. A kindly feeling sprung up immediately, which was mutual between teacher and scholar. This with various other things conspired to make the first term a very pleasant one. At the expiration of the first term, as is usual, the advanced scholars left to attend the Barnard School, which lessened not only the numbers, but the interest of the school."

DISTRICT No. 3.

W. F. Towle, Prudential Committee. Teacher, Miss Sophila J. Foye, of Rye, N. H. School money, \$75.33. Length of Summer term, 17 weeks; Winter term, 9 weeks; wages of teacher per month, including board, \$12.00 for Summer term, and \$14.00 for Winter term. Scholars 4 years of age and upwards attending not less than two weeks, first term 14, second term 11. Number of visits by parents and citizens, 37. This school was visited by the Prudential Committee. Studies: Reading, Penmanship, Spelling, English Grammar, Arithmetic, Geography, Book-keeping, Physiology. This was the teacher's first school; she was very successful and won the affections of her pupils. The scholars are young, but intelligent.—Much interest is manifested by the parents in this district. The teacher, in her remarks says—"Our school-house has been built but a few years, and is pleasantly situated though small; it has the advantage of being sufficiently large to accommodate the very few who attend. The convenience of the pupils seems to have been regarded in the erection of the house, but methinks the furnishing of it to be woefully neglected. It has no globe, no library, no books of reference, only one map of the United States. There has been considerable interest manifested by the parents here; and I think all are anxious their children should succeed. Teachers need the active co-operation of the community, and I think it would be an incalculable benefit if our school-rooms were made a place of more frequent resort."

DISTRICT No. 4.

J. T. Currier, Prudential Committee. Teacher for the Summer term, Miss Annie H. Bartlett, of Sydney, Me. School money for this district, \$47.45. Length of Summer term, 16 weeks. Wages of teacher per month, including board, \$15.00. Scholars 4 years of age and upwards attending not less than two weeks, 8; average attendance, 6; 8 scholars made reading a study; 8 spelling; 3 penmanship; 5 arithmetic; 2 grammar; 2 geography. Miss Bartlett labored for the good of her school, and was successful in advancing her pupils; order was good, and maintained without harshness or severity.

WINTER TERM. This term was taught by Mr. O. H. Keay, of Danville, N. H. Only four different scholars attended school from this town, and none were present at the examination at the close of the school. The studies pursued were the same as the Summer term. Mr. Keay has taught this school before, which is a mark of esteem in which he is held by the district that needs no comment. We wish other schools would follow this example of retaining a good teacher when they find one. Your committee would congratulate this district upon the good results which attends its union with district No. 3 in Newton; yet it is to be regretted that out of the few scholars in this town, there is an average attendance of less than two.

REMARKS.

Your Committee, in closing his report, would recognize with thankfulness the privileges of our schools, and the many benefits that flow therefrom. Having visited each school several times during the year, he finds it a source of gratification to be able to report that they have been of a commendable character; order and harmony have prevailed; but little dissatisfaction has come to the knowledge of your committee.

The school in District No. 1, during the Summer term, was full; a part of the time more members were there than could be properly accommodated. The growth of the District requires a larger and better house. Teacher and pupil suffer, more than is known, from a badly heated, improperly ventilated school room; while the head is heated and oppressed with vitiated air, the feet are suffering from the wind whistling through an open-work floor—and this open-work not ornamented either.

Knowledge is the offspring of mind acting on external causes; should this external be of the rudest sort? Should nature be walled out and noxious gasses walled in? Rather let symmetry prevail; bring nature into the school room; she will not drive the child from his books—she will give him new thoughts. Thus, instead of misers stowing away facts, we shall have scholars; not those that depend simply on an infinite memory, but on an infinite and electrical force of combination. Surround, then, these young and thinking minds with subjects of thought, such as can be found within the walls of a healthy, well proportioned and arranged school house. Let not the interest that now exists among the citizens of this district die away before a house is built suitable for and capacious enough to accommodate the school.

It is to be regretted that so many cases of tardiness and days of absence are reported in some of our schools. With every lesson thus omitted a link is lost from the chain of studies, and the whole class must wait till the delinquent retraces the steps of the previous day and repairs the loss; the teacher becomes disheartened, and the whole school suffers. This is an evil over which the teacher has but little control; parents are almost wholly responsible for it. Great praise is due to those scholars who were not absent one half day; like praise is due also to their parents.

Considerable interest has been shown during the past year among parents and friends in visiting the schools; this practice ought to be encouraged. Let each one take it upon himself as a duty to frequently visit the school room; meet teacher and children within their own walls, and see for yourself how the little kingdom is governed, and how the little subjects advance and obey. Wait not for the teacher to come and tell you these things; friendly countenances give strength to the

teacher, and confidence to the scholar, and keeps them ever ready to show the progress they have made, without confusion or timidity.

In the report of the last year your attention was called to the frequent changes of teachers; the suggestion is of importance. The young mind ought to be in the care of those who understand its power, its tendencies and its peculiarities. By the time the teacher has completed the few weeks of a term he begins to know how to curb the restless spirit and urge on the slothful; as soon as he learns this he must leave it for others that follow him to pass over the same blind and erring course. Is it not possible that much valuable time is lost? When a good teacher is found, appointment should be made to last during good behavior. A like error is made in the frequent change of text books. Reports show that the best schools in our country are those in which the least change is made in these respects. Attention is especially paid to the development of the intellectual powers;—do these alone need training? Should we lose sight of the moral part? The school room should abound in virtuous, unsectarian instruction, that shall prepare the child for a law-abiding, God-abiding citizen, brave-hearted, noble. No reform is more needed in our schools than moral reform; the use of obscene and profane language, and the vulgar rudeness of manners so common in school intercourse—an evil which teachers and *parents in particular*, should seek to eradicate. We should look with charity upon that teacher among whose pupils we find these evils; we should not expect him with whom the scholars are for a few weeks to accomplish more than is accomplished by the influence of home, where the years of infancy are passed and so many of the hours of childhood and youth. In our schools we see the men and women of the next generation—as the instruction of youth, so will be the fruits of maturer years. In no way can we secure greater blessings for our country, or improve our own age and posterity more, than by disseminating those principles—principles of piety and justice, a sacred regard for truth and all other virtues. By supplying our mental and moral longings with that appropriate stimulus without which no one can be contented or happy, they will cause peace and happiness to cease its weary flight in search of rest, and to dwell among us.

CHARLES FULLER,
Superintending School Committee.

March 10th, 1860.

